

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-12 (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing the bioavailability of a fat in a consumable ~~fat-containing~~ fat-containing food product comprising determining the amount of fat in a consumable ~~fat-containing~~ fat-containing food product and combining  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin with the consumable ~~fat-containing~~ fat-containing food product such that the consumable ~~fat-containing~~ fat-containing food product comprises a ratio of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin to fat of about 1:20 to about 1:3 w/w wherein said  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is not removed from said food product prior to consumption.
14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the consumable fat-containing food product is a consumable farinaceous food product.
15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the consumable fat-containing food product is a consumable dairy, meat or vegetable product.
16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the consumable fat-containing food product comprises about 7% to 80% fat [[w/w]] by calorie content.
17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is ~~consumed~~ in a form selected from the group consisting of a pill, tablet, powder, capsule, liquid, cracker, wafer, and confection.

Claims 18-61 (Cancelled)

62. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein said ratio of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin to fat is about 1:13 to about 1:5.
63. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein said ratio of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin to fat is about 1:9.

64. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is a substantially pure  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin.
65. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the consumable farinaceous food product comprises at least about 7% to about 80% fat by caloric content.
66. (New) The method of claim 14 wherein the farinaceous food product is selected from the group consisting of snack bars, breakfast cereals, pancakes, waffles, muffins, fruit filled pastries, tortillas, corn chips, tortilla chips, snack crackers, breads, cakes, cookies, and pies.
67. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the consumable farinaceous food product comprises less than about 6% w/w total cyclodextrin.
68. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the consumable farinaceous food product comprises less than about 3% w/w total cyclodextrin.
69. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the consumable fat-containing food product is cooked.
70. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the consumable fat-containing food product is a consumable non-farinaceous food product.
71. (New) The method of claim 70, wherein the consumable non-farinaceous food product comprises less than about 9% w/w total cyclodextrin.
72. (New) The method of claim 70, wherein the consumable non-farinaceous food product comprises at least 5% to 50% fat w/w.
73. (New) The method of claim 15 wherein the meat product is selected from the group consisting of a beef product, a lamb product, a poultry product, a seafood product and a pork product.

74. (New) The method of claim 15 wherein the meat product is selected from the group consisting of frankfurters, deli slices, sausages, fish sticks, chicken fingers, meatloaf, meatballs and hamburgers.
75. (New) The method of claim 15 wherein the dairy product is selected from the group consisting of milk, cream, pudding, butter, ice cream, cheese, processed cheese products, yogurt and yogurt products.
76. (New) The method of claim 15 wherein the vegetable product is selected from the group consisting of french fries, tempura, veggie burgers, refried beans, hummus, tahini, margarine and nut butters.
77. (New) A method for promoting weight loss, reducing weight gain or maintaining weight in a subject in need thereof by reducing the bioavailability of ingested fat comprising determining the amount of fat ingested by a subject that is in excess of the amount the subject desires to absorb, administering to the subject an amount of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin wherein the amount of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin and the amount of excess ingested fat are in a ratio of about 1:20 to about 1:3 w/w thereby promoting weight loss, reducing weight gain or maintaining weight of the subject by reducing the bioavailability of the excess of ingested fat.
78. (New) The method of claim 77 wherein said subject consumes a daily diet comprising at least 30% fat by caloric content.
79. (New) The method of claim 77 wherein the  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is administered in a form selected from the group consisting of a pill, tablet, powder, capsule, liquid, cracker, wafer, and confection.
80. (New) The method of claim 77 wherein said ratio of administered  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin to ingested fat that the subject desires to prevent from being absorbed is about 1:13 to about 1:5.
81. (New) The method of claim 80 wherein said ratio of administered  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin to excess ingested fat is about 1:9.

82. (New) The method of claim 77 wherein said subject consumes on average about 100 g of fat per day and wherein about 6 g  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin per day is administered to said subject.
83. (New) The method of claim 77, wherein the amount of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin administered is sufficient to reduce the absorption of a sufficient amount of ingested fat such that the weight of said subject decreases by about 1 to about 1.5 pounds per week.
84. (New) The method of claim 77 wherein about 500 mg to about 33g of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is administered to the subject in need thereof daily.
85. (New) The method of claim 84 wherein about 5 g to about 20 g of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is administered to the subject in need thereof daily.
86. (New) The method of claim 85 wherein about 6 g to about 11 g of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is administered to the subject in need thereof daily.
87. (New) The method of claim 77 wherein the subject is a mammal.
88. (New) The method of claim 87 wherein the mammal is selected from the group consisting of human, horse, cow, dog, and cat.
89. (New) The method of claim 77 wherein the  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is administered in the form of a pet food.
90. (New) The method of claim 77, wherein said  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is combined with a consumable fat-containing food product before consumption of said food product.
91. (New) The method of claim 77, wherein said  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is consumed by said subject before or during consumption of a meal comprising a fat-containing food product.
92. (New) The method of claim 91 wherein about 165mg to 11g of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is consumed by said subject before or during consumption of a meal comprising a fat-containing food product.

93. (New) The method of claim 91 wherein about 2g to about 4g of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is consumed by said subject before or during consumption of a meal comprising a fat-containing food product.
94. (New) The method of claim 91 wherein about 2g of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is consumed before or during consumption of a meal comprising a fat-containing food product.
95. (New) The method of claim 94 wherein said  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is consumed in a form selected from the group consisting of a tablet, powder, capsule, liquid and confection.
96. (New) The method of claim 77, wherein said  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is consumed by said subject after consumption of a meal comprising a fat-containing food product.
97. (New) The method of claim 96 wherein about 165mg to 11g of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is consumed by said subject after consumption of a meal comprising a fat-containing food product.
98. (New) The method of claim 96 wherein about 2g to about 4g of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is consumed by said subject after consumption of a meal comprising a fat-containing food product.
99. (New) The method of claim 96 wherein about 2g of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is consumed after consumption of a meal comprising a fat-containing food product.
100. (New) The method of claim 96 wherein said  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is consumed in a form selected from the group consisting of a tablet, powder, capsule, liquid and confection.
101. (New) The method of claim 77, wherein the  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is a substantially pure  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin.
102. (New) The method of claim 77, wherein the  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin is administered to the subject in the form of a consumable fat-containing food product comprising  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin such that the ratio of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin to fat in the food product is about 1:20 to about 1:3, and wherein the total amount of cyclodextrin in said food product is no more than 9% w/w.

103. (New) The method of claim 102, wherein the consumable fat-containing food product is a consumable farinaceous food product.
104. (New) The method of claim 103, wherein the consumable farinaceous food product comprises at least about 7% to about 80% fat by caloric content.
105. (New) The method of claim 103, wherein the farinaceous food product is selected from the group consisting of snack bars, breakfast cereals, pancakes, waffles, muffins, fruit filled pastries, tortillas, corn chips, tortilla chips, snack crackers, breads, cakes, cookies, and pies.
106. (New) The method of claim 103, wherein the consumable farinaceous food product comprises less than about 6% w/w total cyclodextrin.
107. (New) The method of claim 106, wherein said cyclodextrin is a substantially pure  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin.
108. (New) The method of claim 103, wherein the consumable farinaceous food product comprises less than about 3% w/w total cyclodextrin.
109. (New) The method of claim 108, wherein said cyclodextrin is a substantially pure  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin.
110. (New) The method of claim 102, wherein the consumable fat-containing food product is cooked.
111. (New) The method of claim 102, wherein the consumable fat-containing food product is a consumable non-farinaceous food product.
112. (New) The method of claim 111 wherein the consumable non-farinaceous food product is a meat, dairy or vegetable product.
113. (New) The method of claim 112 wherein the meat product is selected from the group consisting of a beef product, a lamb product, a poultry product, a seafood product and a pork product.

114. (New) The method of claim 112 wherein the meat product is selected from the group consisting of frankfurters, deli slices, sausages, fish sticks, chicken fingers, meatloaf, meatballs and hamburgers.
115. (New) The method of claim 112 wherein the dairy product is selected from the group consisting of milk, cream, pudding, butter, ice cream, cheese, processed cheese products, yogurt and yogurt products.
116. (New) The method of claim 112 wherein the vegetable product is selected from the group consisting of french fries, tempura, veggie burgers, refried beans, hummus, tahini, margarine and nut butters.